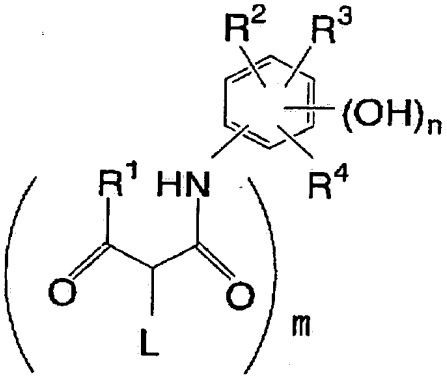
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A heat-sensitive recording material comprising a substrate having disposed thereon a heat-sensitive recording layer containing a diazo compound and a coupler compound capable of reacting with the diazo compound to develop color,

wherein the coupler compound includes at least one of anilide derivatives represented by the following formula (1) or tautomers thereof:

Formula (1)

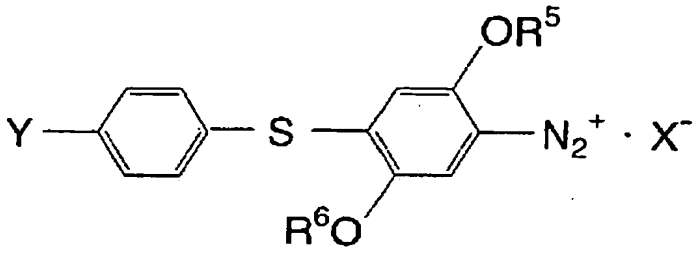


wherein R^1 represents an alkyl group or an aryl group; R^2, R^3 and R^4 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an alkyl group, an aryl group, an acyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkoxycarbonyl group, a hydroxycarbonyl group, an aminocarbonyl group, an acylamino group, a cyano group, a nitro group, an arylthio group or an alkylthio group; L represents a group which can leave upon coupling with the diazo compound; m represents 1 or 2; and n represents 1 or 2.

2. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 1,

wherein the diazo compound is a compound represented by the following formula (2):

Formula (2)



wherein Y represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group or an aryloxy group; R^5 and R^6 each independently represent an alkyl group; and X^- represents an acid anion.

3. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 1, wherein the diazo compound is encapsulated in a microcapsule.

4. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 2, wherein the diazo compound is encapsulated in a microcapsule.

5. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 1, further comprising a basic substance.

6. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 2, further comprising a basic substance.

7. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 3,

wherein a capsule wall forming the microcapsule contains at least one of polyurethane or polyurea.

8. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 4, wherein a capsule wall forming the microcapsule contains at least one of polyurethane or polyurea.

9. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 1, wherein the anilide derivative is contained at a range of 0.02 to 5 g/m^2 in the heat-sensitive recording layer.

10. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 1, wherein the coupler compound including the anilide derivative represented by formula (1) is contained at a range of 1 to 30 mole relative to 1 mole of the diazo compound.

11. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 2, wherein the diazo compound represented by formula (2) has a melting point in a range of 30°C to 200°C.

12. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 2, wherein the diazo compound represented by formula (2) is contained at a range of 0.02 to 3 g/m^2 in the heat-sensitive recording layer.

13. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 5,

wherein the basic substance is selected from the group consisting of tertiary amines, piperidines, piperazines, amidines, formamidines, pyridines, guanidines and morpholines.

14. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 6, wherein the basic substance is selected from the group consisting of tertiary amines, piperidines, piperazines, amidines, formamidines, pyridines, guanidines and morpholines.

15. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 5, wherein the basic substance is contained at a range of 1 to 30 mole relative to 1 mole of the diazo compound.

16. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 6, wherein the basic substance is contained at a range of 1 to 30 mole relative to 1 mole of the diazo compound.

17. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 1, further comprising a color forming auxiliary.

18. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 17, wherein the color forming auxiliary is selected from the group consisting of a phenol derivative, a naphthol derivative, an alkoxy-substituted benzene, an alkoxy-substituted naphthalene, a hydroxy compound, a carboxylic acid amide compound and a sulfonamide compound.

19. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 1, further comprising a free radical generator.

20. The heat-sensitive recording material according to claim 1, wherein the substrate is selected from the group consisting of a neutral paper, an acidic paper, a recycled paper, a polyolefin resin laminated paper, a synthetic paper, a polyester film, a cellulose derivative film and a polyolefin film.